

REMARKS

Paragraph [0036] of the specification has been amended to correct an informality contained therein. Claims 5 and 33 have been amended to correct informalities contained therein. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-43 remain pending, with claims 23-32 withdrawn from consideration at this time.

In the Office Action dated January 9, 2007, the specification was objected to because of an informality contained in paragraph [0036]. Paragraph [0036] has been amended to correct the informality, as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claim 5 was objected to for containing an informality. Claim 5 has been amended to correct the informality, as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 5 be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claims 33-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Botta (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0054486). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 33 recites a supply for a master processing apparatus operable to affect adhesive bonding between sheets of a pouch to a target substrate. As recited by claim 33, the supply includes, *inter alia*, “a removable pouch holder constructed to be removably mounted to the frame of the apparatus; and a plurality of pouches arranged in the pouch holder, each pouch including a pair of sheets joined at leading ends thereof and adhesive provided on an inner surface of at least one of the sheets.” Claim 33 further recites “the pouch holder being configured to enable the pouches to be successively exposed as a leading pouch in an operative position wherein one of the sheets of the leading pouch can be unfolded away from the other sheet to open the leading pouch into an open position for receipt of the target substrate, and thereafter the leading pouch with the target substrate can be fed into the processor for performance of the processing operation.” Botta does not disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 33.

Botta discloses a laminating apparatus that includes a feed unit (80) that feeds prefabricated raw laminates to a laminating unit (20). *See* Botta at [0045]; FIGs. 4a and 4b. The feed unit (80) includes a magazine (82) that has an oblique supporting surface. *See* Botta at [0045]; FIGs. 4a and 4b. Botta does not give any details about the magazine, other than its orientation within the feed unit. *See* Botta at [0045]; FIGs. 4a and 4b. Botta does not disclose or suggest a pouch holder that is “configured to enable the pouches to be

successively exposed as a leading pouch in an operative position wherein one of the sheets of the leading pouch can be unfolded away from the other sheet to open the leading pouch into an open position," as recited by claim 33. *See* Office Action at page 3, ln. 21 – page 4, ln. 5 (with regard to claim 1).

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not separately treated dependent claims 34-43, so the Examiner's position as to how Botta teaches each and every feature of claims 34-43 is not clear.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 33 and the claims that depend from claim 33, and include additional advantageous features, are patentable over Botta, and respectfully request that the rejection to claims 33-43 be withdrawn.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that claims 1-22 are allowed. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are allowable.

All rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any point remains at issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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